

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in Washington to Close

Sacramento, CA – Nancy Porzio, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration's Seattle District Office, announced today that the SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Longview will close on Thursday, March 26 at 5 pm and the center in Puyallup will close on Tuesday, March 31 at 5 pm. "Until these centers close, SBA will continue to provide one-on-one, personal service for disaster victims of the severe winter storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides that occurred from January 6 through January 16, 2009," said Porzio.

"SBA customer service representatives are available at the centers to meet with residents and business owners to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, help individuals complete their applications and close their approved disaster loans. Individuals and business owners who sustained losses from the severe winter storms can speak with SBA representatives on the days and times indicated. No appointment is necessary," Porzio continued.

COWLITZ COUNTY

Disaster Loan Outreach Center Cowlitz County Training Center 'The Boat House' 1942 First Avenue Behind the Hall of Justice Longview, WA

PIERCE COUNTY

Disaster Loan Outreach Center Community Resource Center 107 North Meridian Corner of E. Main & N. Meridian Puyallup, WA

Wednesdays through Fridays, 8:30 am to 5 pm

Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 am to 5 pm

Closes Thursday, March 26 at 5 pm

Closes Tuesday, March 31 at 5 pm

SBA offers low-interest Federal disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations to repair or replace property damaged or destroyed by the disaster. So far, SBA has approved over \$3.3 million in low-interest disaster loans to Washington residents and businesses affected by the severe winter storms.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace their damaged or destroyed primary residence. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of any size and private, non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help homeowners and business owners with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

(more)

For small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business or non-profit suffered any property damage.

The application deadline for property damage is **March 31, 2009**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **October 30, 2009**.

Disaster victims should first register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by calling (800) 621-3362, or visiting the FEMA Web site at www.fema.gov.

Residents and business owners may obtain SBA disaster loan information from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955, emailing <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u>, or visiting SBA's Web site at <u>www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance</u>. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Disaster victims may also apply online using the SBA's Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure Web site at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.